

Commercial.

TO-DAY.
THE SHARE MARKET.

Share business to-day has been almost entirely confined to China Sugars, in which stock a fair amount of transfers has been reported, especially for forward dates. Sales are stated to have been made at 147 and 148 for September, and at the cash rate shares are wanted at from 145 to 146. In other stocks nothing has been done.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—150 per cent. premium, sellers.	
China Insurance Company—268 per share, buyers.	
China Fire Insurance Company—285 per share, buyers.	
China Insurance Company, Limited—274 per share, buyers.	
Chinese Insurance Association—110 per share, sellers.	
Chinese Insurance Company—170 per share, sellers.	
On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—115 per share, buyers.	
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—322 per share, sellers.	
China Fire Insurance Company—272 per share, buyers.	
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, 31 per cent. premium, buyers.	
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—62 per share, buyers.	
China and Manchuria Steam Ship Company—62 per share, buyers.	
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—12 per cent. dis. sellers.	
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company—53 per share, buyers.	
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—146 per share, buyers.	
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—51 per share, buyers.	
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—268 per share, sellers.	
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—8 per share.	
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—86 per cent. premium, ex div. buyers.	
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 A—2 per cent. premium.	
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—8 per cent. premium.	
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—10 per cent. premium, buyers.	
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1885 E—12 per cent. premium.	
Hongkong Paper Manufacturing Company, Limited—53 per share, sellers.	
Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Company—320 per share.	
Panama and San Francisco Mining Co.—214 per share.	
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—23 per cent. premium, sellers.	
Tonghai Coal Mining Co.—30 per cent. premium, buyers.	

NEW MATUA per picul, \$550	
(Allowance, Tails 16 to 48)	
OLD MATUA per picul, \$570 to \$580	
(Allowance, Tails 16 to 32)	
NEW PATNA (first choice) per chest \$470	
NEW PATNA (bottom) per chest \$470	
NEW PATNA (second choice) per chest \$467	
NEW PATNA (bottom) per chest \$463	
NEW PATNA (best quality) per picul \$650	
OLD PATNA (best quality) per picul \$655	
OLD PATNA (second quality) per picul \$570 to \$575	

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

25th May, 1888.—At 4 p.m.

STATION.	Barometer at Sea Level	Thermometer at Sea Level	Thermometer at Surface	Wind	Direction	Force	Remarks
Wailuocok	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Tsiki	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Nagasaki	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Shanghai	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Amoy	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Hongkong	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Batavia	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Manila	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	

26th May, 1888.—At 10 a.m.

STATION.	Barometer at Sea Level	Thermometer at Sea Level	Thermometer at Surface	Wind	Direction	Force	Remarks
Wailuocok	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Tsiki	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Nagasaki	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Shanghai	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Amoy	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Hongkong	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Batavia	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
Manila	30.05	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	

The barometer is falling along the southern coast of China and has risen in Japan. Gradients are very slight for east winds. Clouds and rain in the morning, but clearing away. The humidity of air saturated with moisture being 100. Direction of the wind to two points. Force of the wind according to Beaufort scale. 0—No wind; 1—Light breeze; 2—Breeze; 3—Fresh breeze; 4—Fair breeze; 5—Fair breeze; 6—Strong breeze; 7—Strong breeze; 8—Strong breeze; 9—Strong breeze; 10—Strong breeze; 11—Strong breeze; 12—Strong breeze.

Hongkong Observatory, 26th May, 1888.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

Time.	Thermometer at Sea Level	Thermometer at Surface	Wind	Direction	Force	Remarks
8 a.m.	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
11 a.m.	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
2 p.m.	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
5 p.m.	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
8 p.m.	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	
11 p.m.	25.5	25.5	W	1	1	

MAILS EXPECTED.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.
The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Bokhara*, with the next English mail, left Singapore on the 23rd instant, at 5 p.m., and is due here on or about the 28th.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.
The P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamer *City of New York*, with mails from San Francisco to the 1st instant, left Yokohama on the 22nd instant, and is due here on the 28th.

THE CANADIAN MAIL.
The Canadian Pacific Line steamer *Parthia*, with the Canadian mails, left Shanghai on the 14th instant, and is due here on the 28th.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Agamemnon*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 21st instant, and is expected here on the 27th.

The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Bellerophon*, from London, left Singapore on the 22nd instant, and is due here on the 28th.

The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Hector*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 23rd instant, and is due here on the 29th.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s regular fortnightly steamer *Thibet*, left Bombay on the 17th inst., at 4 p.m., and is expected here on or about the 3rd proximo.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.

PIU-QUOC, French steamer, 183, Espee, 26th May, Amoy 24th May, Ballast—Wing Tai.	
HAIPHONG, British steamer, 1,222, Harris, 26th May, Fochow 22nd May, Amoy 23rd, and Swatow 25th, General—D. Lapraik & Co.	
GLORCHY, British steamer, 1,241, F. Gedy, 26th May, London, via Singapore 20th May, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.	
KWANG-KAP, Chinese corvette, 26th May, from Canton.	
NIOBE, German steamer, 1,674, E. G. Pfaff, 26th May, Hamburg, and Singapore 20th May, General—Stemmen & Co.	
FUCHU, Chinese cable steamer, Piper, 26th May, from Pakhoi.	

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.

Decca, British steamer, for Singapore.	
Victoria, British steamer, for Nagasaki.	
Phu-quo, French steamer, for Haiphong.	
Triumph, German steamer, for Saigon.	
Caribbrooke, British steamer, for Saigon.	
Glenorchy, British steamer, for Shanghai.	
Bylegia, German bark, for Whampoa.	

DEPARTURES.

May 26, <i>Thyra</i> , German str., for Whampoa.	
May 26, <i>Decca</i> , German str., for Whampoa.	
May 26, <i>Caribbrooke</i> , British str., for Saigon.	
May 26, <i>Ducan</i> , British str., for Saigon, &c.	
May 26, <i>Borneo</i> , Dutch steamer, for Saigon, &c.	
May 26, <i>Victoria</i> , British str., for Nagasaki.	
May 26, <i>Rio Lima</i> , Portuguese gunboat, for Macao.	

DEPARTURES.

Per <i>Phu-quo</i> , str., from Amoy—35 Chinese.	
Per <i>Haiphong</i> , str., from Fochow, Amoy, &c.—Mr. A. A. Margal, and 25 Chinese.	
Per <i>Glenorchy</i> , str., from London, &c.—For Hongkong—164 Chinese. For Shanghai—Dr. Shrubbs and Mr. Dausser.	
Per <i>Niope</i> , str., from Hamburg, &c.—Mr. Friederichsen, and 250 Chinese.	

DEPARTURES.

Per <i>Decca</i> , str., for Singapore—Dr. W. Merck, Mr. A. Wohlmann, and 200 Chinese.	
Per <i>Caribbrooke</i> , str., for Saigon—200 Chinese.	
Per <i>Phu-quo</i> , str., for Haiphong—6 Chinese.	
Per <i>Triumph</i> , str., for Saigon—100 Chinese.	
Per <i>Glenorchy</i> , str., for Shanghai—2 Europeans.	

REPORTS.

The British steamship *Glenorchy* reports that she left London, via Singapore on the 20th instant. Had light winds and calms. The British steamship *Haiphong* reports that she left Fochow on the 22nd instant. Amoy on the 23rd, and Swatow on the 25th. From Fochow to Amoy experienced moderate north-east monsoon. From Amoy to Swatow had moderate north-east to easterly winds with drizzling rain. From Swatow to Hongkong had light easterly winds and overcast sky. In Fochow, the steamships *Glenorchy* and *Kaitow*. In Amoy, the steamships *Formosa*, *Fooktang*, and *Kaitang*. In Swatow, the steamships *Hangchow* and *Taiwan*.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL GO.

For Saigon.—Per <i>Triumph</i> , to-morrow, the 27th instant, at 9.00 A.M.	
For Haiphong.—Per <i>Freja</i> , to-morrow, the 27th instant, at 9.00 A.M.	
For Kuchinotzu.—Per <i>Fukuhiko Maru</i> , to-morrow, the 27th instant, at 9.00 A.M.	
For Shanghai.—Per <i>Glenorchy</i> , to-morrow, the 27th instant, at 9.00 A.M.	
For Amoy and Tamsui.—Per <i>Formosa</i> , on Monday, the 28th instant, at 2.30 P.M.	
For Swatow and Tientsin.—Per <i>Yikang</i> , on Monday, the 28th instant, at 2.30 P.M.	
For Amoy and Manila.—Per <i>Zafra</i> , on Monday, the 28th instant, at 3.30 P.M.	
For Shanghai.—Per <i>Ningpo</i> , on Monday, the 28th instant, at 3.30 P.M.	
For Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama.—Per <i>Kashgar</i> , on Monday, the 28th instant, at 3.00 P.M.	
For Swatow, Amoy, & Fochow.—Per <i>Hatphong</i> , on Tuesday, the 29th instant, at 11.30 A.M.	
For Swatow, Singapore, and Bangkok.—Per <i>Pha Chula Chom Klao</i> , on Tuesday, the 29th instant, at 11.30 A.M.	
For Yokohama and San Francisco.—Per <i>Cacko</i> , on Wednesday, the 30th instant, at 2.30 P.M.	
For Straits and Calcutta.—Per <i>Wingding</i> , on Wednesday, the 30th instant, at 2.30 P.M.	
For Singapore and Mauritius.—Per <i>Preja</i> , on Wednesday, the 30th instant, at 3.30 P.M.	
For Europe, &c.—Per <i>Verona</i> , on Saturday, the 2nd June, at 11.00 A.M.	
For Europe, &c.—Per <i>Nicker</i> , on Wednesday, the 3rd June, at 3.00 P.M.	
For Europe, &c.—Per <i>Admiral</i> , on Thursday, the 7th June, at 11.00 A.M.	

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.

AIRLIE, British steamer, 2,338, W. Ellis, 17th May, Sydney 5th April, Thursday Island.	
17th, Port Darwin 21st, Samarang 27th, Batavia 7th May, and Singapore 11th, General—Russell & Co.	
ASHINGTON, British steamer, 856, Reynell, 21st April, Saigon 16th April, Rice—Wiel & Co.	
FUSHIKI MARU, Japanese steamer, 1,118, W. Thompson, 23rd May, Kuchinotzu 19th May, Coals—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.	
FRER, Danish steamer, 392, C. A. Lund, 20th May, Haiphong 18th May, General—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	
GARLIC, British steamer, 4,029, W. G. Pearne, 21st May, San Francisco 23rd April, and Yokohama 14th May, Mails and General—O. & O. S. N. Co.	
KASHGAR, British steamer, 1,555, C. Gadd, 19th May, Bombay, via Singapore 13th May, General—P. & O. S. N. Co.	
NINGPO, German steamer, 762, Schulz, 25th May, Whampoa 25th May, General—Stemmen & Co.	
PHRA CHULA CHOM KLAO, British steamer, 1,011, A. Benson, 20th May, Bangkok 14th May, Rice—Yuen Fat Hong.	
PROTOS, German steamer, 1,093, C. Sorensen, 19th May, Saigon 15th May, General—Ed. Schellhass & Co.	
PORT ADELPHI, British steamer, 1,783, F. West, 17th May, Nagasaki 12th May, Coal—Adamson, Bell & Co.	
RECORDE, British steamer, 676, C. O. Madge, 11th May, from a cruise, Cable—E. E. A. & C. Telegraph Co.	
TARTAR, British steamer, 1,604, D. S. Bailey, 20th May, Newcastle, N.S.W., 26th May, Coal—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	
TRIUMPH, German steamer, 674, P. Moos, 24th May, Whampoa 24th May, General—Wiel & Co.	
UPPINGHAM, British steamer, 1,430, E. Newcomb, 24th May, Saigon 13th May, Rice—Chun Cheong Wing.	
WINGSANG, British steamer, 1,517, A. de St. Croix, 21st May, Calcutta 6th May, and Singapore 16th, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.	

SAILING VESSELS.

ANE CATRINE, Danish brig, 193, N. Andersen, 26th May, Newcastle, N.S.W., 26th May, Coal—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	
ANTONETTE, British brig, 884, E. Th. Bunje, 30th April, New York 5th January, Kerosene Oil—Order.	
ERKONING, Chinese bark, 457, Opium Examination hulk, Stonewarts Island—Chinese Customs.	
ESCORT, American bark, 637, R. G. Waterhouse, 5th May, Singapore 11th April, Timber—Gonsalves & Co.	
FIGARO, German bark, 1,006, G. Heintzel, 16th May, Singapore 17th April, Timber—Melchers & Co.	
HEINRICH, German ship, 973, F. H. Bannau, 20th May, Middleborough 17th Dec, Iron and Coals—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	
H. PRINZENDERG, German bark, 550, H. Ahrens, 17th April, Honolulu 5th March, General—Melchers & Co.	
HAYDN BROWN, American ship, 820, C. H. Havener, 30th April, Newcastle 3rd March, Coals—Butterfield & Swire.	
LAUGHING WAVE, British brig, 161, Shaw, 21st May, Freemantle, (W.A.), 17th April, Sandalwood—Stemmen & Co.	
LOUIS, German bark, 653, T. Köhne, 1st May, Hamburg 5th December, General—Stemmen & Co.	
NEW CITY, British ship, 1,441, C. S. Robinson, 19th May, Cardiff 28th Nov., Coal—Order.	
RUBY, British ship, 1,392, E. C. Robb, 11th May, Cardiff 5th December, Coals—Messageries Maritimes.	
SANTA FILOMENA, Spanish schooner, 449, J. de Mendiguren, 24th Jan., Iloilo 31st Dec, General—Kwong Cheong Tai.	
TITAN, American ship, 1,276, Allyn, 28th Jan., New York 28th August, Kerosene Oil—Russell & Co.	
TETRA, German bark, 138, R. R. R. 1st April—Singapore 20th January, Hatwood and Timber—Chinese.	
VELOCITY, British bark, 491, R. Martin, 3rd May, Honolulu 21st March, General—Fustau & Co.	

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SHIPS IN THE CHINA SQUADRON.

Alacrity, despatch vessel, 1,400 tons, 3180 h-p, Shanghai, Commander R. Blair Macdonochie.	
Audacious, battle-ship (armoured), 2nd class, 6,000 tons, 4810 h-p, 18 guns, Captain J. B. Warren, Flag of Commander-in-Chief, Shanghai.	
Cockchafer, gunboat, 2nd class, 460 tons, 470 h-p, 4 guns, Lieut. Commander H. H. Boteler, Shanghai.	
Constance, cruiser, 3rd class, 2,380 tons, 2,590 h-p, 14 guns, Captain L. C. Keppel, Hongkong.	
Cordoba, cruiser, 3rd class, 2,380 tons, 2,590 h-p, 10 guns, Captain H. H. Boys, Shanghai.	
Esk, gunboat, 3rd class, Coast Defence, 463 tons, 340 h-p, 3 guns, Gunner W. Weeks, Hongkong, in reserve.	
Esper, gunboat, 2nd class, 465 tons, 470 h-p, 4 guns, Lieut. Commandr. R. Y. Smith, Hongkong.	
Heroine, cruiser, 3rd class, 1,420 tons, 1,130 h-p, 8 guns, Captain Charles J. Balfour, East Coast.	
Leander, cruiser, 2nd class, 3,750 tons, 4,500 h-p, 10 guns, Captain M. J. Dundas, Kobe.	
Linnæus, gunvessel, 2nd class, 750 tons, 1,050 h-p, 5 guns, Commander W. H. Marrack, Amoy.	
Merlin, gunboat, 2nd class, 430 tons, 430 h-p, 4 guns, Lieut. Commandr. W. H. Martin, Hongkong.	
Mutine, sloop, 1,130 tons, 1,120 h-p, 10 guns, Commander J. H. Martin, East Coast.	
Porpoise, man-of-war, 1,750, Captain R. W. White, Hongkong.	
Ramirez, surveying vessel, 810 tons, 690 h-p, 3 guns, Commander W. A. Moore, on a cruise.	
Rattler, gunboat, 1st class, 670 tons, 1,200 h-p, 6 guns, Lieutenant-Commander W. H. M. Donaghy, Kobe.	
Sapphire, cruiser, 3rd class, 1,970 tons, 2,360 h-p, 12 guns, Captain W. C. Carrington, Wootung.	
Satellite, cruiser, 3rd class, 1,420 tons, 1,400 h-p, 8 guns, Captain T. F. W. Neaham, Hongkong.	
Swift, gun-vessel and class, 600 tons, 1,000 h-p, 6 guns, Commander C. B. Bromley, Ningpo, recommissioning.	
Tweed, gunboat, Coast Defence, 2nd class, 263 tons, 340 h-p, 3 guns, Boatwain J. M. Shea, Hongkong, in reserve.	
Victor Emanuel, receiving ship, 5,157 tons, 20 guns, Commodore W. H. Maxwell, A.D.C., Hongkong.	
Wiven, Coast Defence ship (armoured), 2,730 tons, 1,450 h-p, 4 guns, Gunner D. W. Hawkins, Hongkong, in reserve.	
Wanderer, sloop, 935 tons, 750 h-p, 4 guns, Commander G. A. Glanville, on a cruise, recommissioning.	

STEAMERS EXPECTED IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.	FROM.	DATE DUE.	AGENTS.
Agamemnon	Liverpool	May 27th	Butterfield & Swire.
Bellerophon	London	May 28th	Butterfield & Swire.
Parthia	Vancouver	May 28th	Adamson, Bell & Co.
City of New York	San Francisco	May 28th	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.
Bokhara	London	May 28th	P. & O. S. N. Co.
Hector	Liverpool	May 29th	Butterfield & Swire.
Thibet	Bombay	June 3rd	P. & O. S. N. Co.

STEAMERS LOADING IN HONGKONG.

DESTINATION.	VESSELS.	AGENTS.	DATE OF LEAVING.
London, &c. via Suez Canal	Vibron	P. & O. S. N. Co.	June 2nd, at noon.
London, via Suez Canal	Cyclops	Butterfield & Swire.	June 31st.
Marseilles, via Saigon, &c.	Djemah	Messageries Maritimes.	June 7th, at noon.
Bremen, & Ports of Call.	Neckar	Melchers & Co.	June 6th, at 4 p.m.
Vancouver, B.C., via K. &c.	Port Adelaide	Adamson, Bell & Co.	June 1st, at 3 p.m.
San Francisco, via Y'hama	Gaelic	O. & O. S. S. Co.	May 30th, at 3 p.m.
San Francisco, via Y'hama	City of New York	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	June 9th, at 3 p.m.
Calcutta, via Straits	Wingsang	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	May 30th, at 3 p.m.
Yokohama	Benlawers	Gibb, Livingston & Co.	About May 31st.
Nagasaki, Kobe, &c.	Kashgar	P. & O. S. N. Co.	May 29th, daylight.
Nagasaki, Kobe, &c.	Agamemnon	Butterfield & Swire.	May 31st.
Nagasaki, Kobe, &c.	Norden	Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.	About May 27th.
Tientsin, via Swatow	Wingsang	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	About May 29th.
Shanghai, Nagasaki, &c.	Bokhara	Butterfield & Swire.	May 30th.
Shanghai, via Amoy	Bellerophon	Butterfield & Swire.	May 30th, at 4 p.m.
Shanghai	Ningpo	Siemens & Co.	May 31st.
Shanghai	Hector	Butterfield & Swire.	May 31st.
Manila, via Amoy	Diamante	Russell & Co.	May 29th, at 4 p.m.
Haiphong	Freja	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	May 28th, daylight.
Swatow, Spore, Bangkok.	P. C. Chom Klao	Yuen Fat Hong	May 28th, at noon.
Amoy and Tamsui	Formosa	Douglas LaPraik & Co.	May 28th, at 3 p.m.
Coast Ports	Haiphong	Douglas LaPraik & Co.	May 29th, at noon.

Intimations.

W. POWELL & CO.

GENTLEMEN'S DEPARTMENT.
SILK, COTTON, MERINO, HOSE, VESTS and DRAWERS of every description.
CALCUTTA PITH HATS in newest shapes.
GENT'S STRAW HATS in every size.
TENNIS, TERAL and SUMMER FELT HATS.
RAIN COATS, CHAIR APRONS, and LEGGINGS.
UMBRELLAS—UMBRELLAS—UMBRELLAS.

W. POWELL & CO.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, (TELEPHONE 21) Hongkong, 5th May, 1888.

EPILEPSY
Hysteria, Convuls

By kind permission of Colonel Anderson and the officers of the 2nd Northamptonshire Regiment, the Regimental Band will play in the Public Gardens, to-morrow (Sunday), from 9 till 10 p.m. The following will be the programme:

March "The British Grenadiers" by the Band.
"The British Grenadiers" by the Band.
"The British Grenadiers" by the Band.
"The British Grenadiers" by the Band.
"The British Grenadiers" by the Band.
"The British Grenadiers" by the Band.
"The British Grenadiers" by the Band.
"The British Grenadiers" by the Band.
"The British Grenadiers" by the Band.
"The British Grenadiers" by the Band.

THE liberty of the subject is one of the most valued prerogatives of the Briton, and although it is, after all, only a delusive phrase without very much significance, it is highly prized by the masses. Not long ago an officer of the London School Board was crossing, Covent Garden market at a late hour, when he found a little fellow making his bed for the night in a fruit basket. "Would you not like to go to school and be well cared for?" asked the official. "No," replied the urchin. "But do you know that I am one of the people who are authorised to take up little boys whom I find as I find you, and take them to school?" "I know you are, old chap, if you find them in the streets; but this here is not a street. It is private property; and, if you interfere with my liberty, the Duke of Bedford will be down upon you. I know the fact as well as you."

THIS morning before Mr. Wodehouse, Inspector Hennessy summoned a hawker, Teung A-tai, aged 51, for dealing in Taz-fa lottery tickets. P. C. 174 said this morning at 9 a.m. he went to No. 42 Jardine's Bazaar and on going into the house saw defendant suddenly blow out a light and make a run out of the room into a crook house at the back. On searching the premises with a light, witness found a great many lottery tickets and other things connected with the illicit trade. On questioning defendant he said he was only acting as agent in the house, the regular man being absent. Witness found \$2 in silver in the room and a great quantity of cash. The accused explained to the magistrate that he was not the master of the house at all, nothing more than the agent, but his Worship fined defendant \$75 or in default six weeks in gaol at hard labour, the latter being chosen by the unfortunate adventurer as the cheapest way out of the difficulty.

MR. MARCUS PREHN, overseer of works, is a pretty well known resident of this colony, and West Point should be anything but a terra incognita to the officials of the local Post-office. But it would nevertheless appear that the existence of both Mr. Prehn and West Point were unknown not only to the letter sorters and postmen, but to the great Alfred himself. A letter was sent down from Amoy on the 4th inst. addressed to Mr. Prehn, which address any third-class idiot outside the Post-office would have readily understood to mean No. 1 Chater Road, West Point. Now, although this street or road is the only one in the locality containing private residences, the clever postal authorities could not find Mr. Prehn, and a memo. to that effect was written across the envelope. The result was that the letter did not reach its destination, but about three weeks ago Mr. Prehn, under the circumstances, thought he was justified in making a complaint to the Postmaster and accordingly interviewed Mr. Lister. The great postal autocrat carefully surveyed the envelope—the address on which was legibly enough written—and then minutely remarked "Ah! where is West Point? Is there such a place in the colony?" Mr. Prehn gave the Postmaster the information he wanted, and also favored him with a few trenchant remarks on mismanagement, general stupidity, etc. We never gave Mr. Lister credit for possessing a very great deal of knowledge, but we did think that a Postmaster who had been nearly a quarter of a century in Hongkong must have known of the existence of West Point. Evidently East Point has been the pole-star of Mr. Lister's affections.

THE Macao press heralds the celebration of the new Portuguese-Chinese treaty in a manner quite in touch with the intrinsic worthlessness of that international agreement, though hardly consistent with the loud bragadois with which it formerly hailed the news of its conclusion. The following remarks from the *Independente* of the 22nd inst. clearly demonstrate the accuracy of our assertion, and show what value there really is in this greatly vaunted diplomatic triumph:—"English newspapers have already reported the principal provisions of the Lusitano-Chinese treaty, thereby showing themselves acquainted with a document which we say it is a disgrace to still involve in mystery for the Portuguese press. It is nearly a month since the ratifications were exchanged at Tientsin and a Portuguese translation of the Treaty has not yet seen the light of day in the Government Gazette. This may appear a trifle to many, but it is a fact which clearly characterises our indolent policy. All treaties generally possess a clause to the effect that they are to be published immediately after the exchange of ratifications, and all probability the Portuguese-Chinese treaty is provided with such a clause. It may thus come to pass that, according to its clauses, the treaty is already in force and must be executed under penalty of a breach of contract. But how is it to be carried out, if it has not yet been published and has not officially been made known? All the interest of the compact is concentrated in Macao. It is here that its good or bad influence will be felt. It will be the last to see the official text. It may be said that all this silence is imposed by distance, but we maintain that it is only the product of a lamentable want of foresight. The Government was authorised by a special law to ratify the treaty; by the same law it ought to have authorised its publication in the Macao Government Gazette before it appears in the Lisbon official paper. Our Minister to the Court of Peking would then be enabled, as soon as the last formality of the ratification was over to send a copy to our Gazette, and thus all interests would have been served. There is no end to the questions raised between our Government and that of the Chinese Empire. Up to the present we have settled them with praxis and the precedents of other nations; but now a law has been enacted which must be fulfilled in the exact terms in which it has been framed. We will assume that a question suddenly arises, and that the Mandarin invoke the Treaty on their side; the Governor of Macao will not be able to settle the point either for or against them, because he is not master of the law. What a fine spectacle this would be! The velocity of the telegraph would not fail to divulge such stupendous ignorance. We ignore the reason why the treaty has not been published as in 1863, when the convention was no sooner approved by the Chambers than it was published in the official paper. Although it ultimately failed, there was no *fiasco*, because its coming into force was dependent on its being ratified, which it never was. We must confess that routine is all-powerful with us. There is no question of public utility which is not sacrificed to certain formulas and red-tape which only delay its solution. *See the ad affix.*

THE PORTUGUESE-CHINESE TREATY.

Whatever may be said of the merits of the lately concluded Portuguese-Chinese Treaty, it can hardly be denied that it is a political event of essentially British growth. Portuguese patriots and Macaoese hot-headed scribblers may be dejected at their pleasure upon what they style the most glorious achievement of their noble country; laurels may be heaped ad libitum on the devoted head of Senhor da Rosa, to whom is attributed both the initiative and the success of the Treaty; but the main facts remain unshaken and uncontradicted that Great Britain alone was the promoter of the treaty and that to British influence at the Court of Peking its successful completion is due.

The germ of this international compact may be said to have existed for a long time previous to their final development. Portugal, as the *de facto* occupier of Macao for over three centuries, may be said to have acquired the *de jure* title of possession. The Chinese Government, however, thought otherwise. As China had permitted the Portuguese merchants and sea rovers of old to settle in Macao subject to the payment of a ground-rent, China consistently enough stuck to its position of a suzerain towards a vassal state, and it has always maintained its relations with Portugal on that secure and undeniable basis. The overtures which were repeatedly made by Portugal to open negotiations for a treaty whereby the cession of Macao to the Portuguese should be stipulated for were promptly rejected by China, while Macao, in recklessly plunging into the mire of the nefarious coolie traffic, in harbouring the proscribed game of *fantlan* and the *Y-sing* lottery, and by other acts of open defiance to the laws and the interests of China, had almost severed its diplomatic relations with the Court of Peking. In the plenitude of time it so happened that Great Britain thought it advisable to enter into negotiations with and to make certain concessions to China, in order to bring to a successful issue the annexation of Burma, a vassal state to the Chinese Empire; and as a part of these concessions was the co-operation with China in the collection of that Government's Opium revenue, the colony of Hongkong was saddled with this highly undesirable but profoundly political task. Then, all of a sudden, Macao, which had been sleeping in the oblivion of ages, rose to the surface as a possible competitor with Hongkong in the Opium trade. It was to be heavily taxed in Hongkong by British concessions to China, it was only reasonable to suppose that the opium merchants would soon leave there, settle in Macao, and make that the base of their operations. China saw the danger at a glance, and although she could, by an appeal to arms, easily dispossess the Portuguese occupiers of the little peninsula, and plant her own Customs Station on the old rock of Amangao, and this was the policy advocated by Chang Chih-tung, Viceroy of Canton, she preferred to negotiate, and then England stepped in. The germs of the Portuguese-Chinese Treaty were really incubated during the Opium Conference which sat in the Library of the Supreme Court of this Colony. The only incubators who brooded, and saw now jointly, now in turns, over this *magnus ovum* of a treaty to be made between Portugal and China, were the Opium Commissioners, Sir Robert Hart, Inspector General of the Imperial Maritime Customs, and the Mandarin Shiao on the part of China, Mr. J. Russell, the Acting Chief Justice, on the part of the Colony of Hongkong, and Mr. Byron Brennan on behalf of the British Foreign Office. The bases of the Opium Convention had been already discussed and agreed upon at the Foreign Office in London; its practical execution was referred to the joint committee which assembled in Hongkong, and it was at the debates and discussions which took place at these meetings in September 1886 that the Portuguese-Chinese Treaty was finally and effectively hatched.

It was brought to maturity at Peking by the joint exertions of Sir Robert Hart and the Chinese plenipotentiaries. Portugal's representative, Senhor da Rosa, acted only as an interested spectator throughout all these proceedings. This gentleman had not the slightest diplomatic or administrative qualification to fit him for the position to which he had been appointed. Selected from the cavalry barracks of his regiment to be aide-de-camp to Dom Luis, he so far obtained the good graces of that monarch as to be appointed Governor of Macao. As the Governors of Macao are *ipso facto*, but to a great detriment of law and justice, Ministers plenipotentiary to China, Japan and Siam, Senhor da Rosa was approached by Sir Robert Hart on the subject of the much desired treaty with China. His Excellency jumped at the suggestion; a world of glory awaited him on the near horizon in the shape of promotion and rank. On the completion of his term of service he took the half-hatched egg to Lisbon, where the Foreign Office, the Parliament, and Dom Luis himself sat and brooded over it and bustled so much over the petty germ, that they well-nigh broke it under them, had it not been for the timely intervention of Mr. Duncan Campbell, who acted on behalf of China, under direct instructions from Sir Robert Hart in Peking.

It was when Senhor da Rosa, in his new rôle of Minister Plenipotentiary, appeared in Peking with the Treaty that a formidable adversary arose in the person of His Excellency the Viceroy of the Liang Kwang, Through Chang Chih-tung's almost paramount influence in Peking treaty matters had nearly come to a dead-lock, and the Portuguese Minister was about to return to Portugal, once more convinced of his thorough inability to achieve the object of his mission, when British influence was again brought to bear on the Chinese Government. The Governor of the Opium Convention treaty in the eyes of China, as the *sine qua non* of the celebration of a treaty with Portugal. China finally agreed to the thing, simply because of her Opium Convention with England. She had a clause expressly mentioning this obligation on the part of Portugal inserted in the protocol, and explained in the Treaty; she did not absolutely cede Macao to Portugal, but only allowed that nation conditional possession, stipulating that Portugal must not alienate the colony to any other nation, and that the Macao authorities should co-operate in the collection of the Opium revenue for China. Further, China has reserved the question of a delimitation of the Macao frontier, which has to be settled by a mixed committee to be subsequently appointed, so that even to the present day the Portuguese do not know where or what Macao actually is.

Under these peculiar, and in our opinion, highly humiliating circumstances, this treaty has been granted to Portugal, and now throughout the Far East, subjects of "Fair Lusitania" are told in their praises of their clever Minister and of their noble nation for having obtained this international compact with China. Macao residents went raving with joy when telegraphic news reached the Holy City of the final ratification of the Treaty. Te Deums were sung in the churches, salvoes were fired from the centennial forts; Minister da Rosa was gazetted a Viscount, and appointed Portugal's Plenipotentiary at Washington; in a word, a great deal of childish triumph—triumph which so closely resembles a humiliation that it is difficult to tell the difference, and the achievement of which, whatever it may be worth, is owing far more to

British influence than to Portuguese diplomacy. Our Portuguese princes are holding their jubilee in borrowed plumes!

THE BEGINNING OF THINGS.

William Lee of Woodborough, Nottinghamshire, invented the first stocking-frame in the year 1599. Balloons were invented by Guiseppe, a Jesuit pastor, in 1729, and revived by Montgolfier, a Frenchman, in 1783.

The Chamber of Loans at Venice, organized about 1150, was the first public banking institution ever established.

Paper made of cotton was extensively used in the Eleventh century. Linen paper was invented in 1641. The use of straw in paper dates back to the opening year of the present century.

Edward Randolph was appointed Commissioner of the first custom house in New England, established at Boston in 1680. His authority was superseded when the General Court created a Colonial Naval Office.

Forks began to be known in France towards the end of the Sixteenth century, and were introduced into England in 1688. They were first used in Italy towards the end of the Fifteenth century.

The first clock with a balance was made by De Vick in 1361, and the first with a pendulum in 1641. Watches with springs were first made at Nuremberg, about 1477, but the first successful application of springs to watches was by Dr. Hooke, in 1658. Haroun-al-Raschid, Caliph of Baghdad, in 802 sent to Charlemagne, among other presents, a clock of curious workmanship.

On April 10th there was unveiled at Neuilly a monumental statue of *Parmentier*, who introduced the potato in France.

MANNERS FOR YOUNG MEN.

A young man who respects himself will restrain his prophetic, if he have one, as to the taking of too much wine at dinner.

A certain brutality of manner, supposed to be copied from the English, is affected by some of our young men. They answer harshly, affect not to see a lady to whom they owe civilities, and try to become bores. It is a very poor style and it betrays the snob. It is not a common American fault, but it exists. It should be frowned down, for it is the vice of the mediocre. A good imitation is very bad.

American men should avoid boasting. It is sometimes the vice of self-made men, as Mark Twain says, that they "adore their creature" too much. "I" is a very good pronoun, but it should be kept in its proper place. Men should also respect the dignity of conversation. To do them justice, most of them are far more particular than women are. Women are unfortunately falling into the fashion of repeating doubtful witticisms, and using double entendres much more than men do. They sin from ignorance, no doubt.

A young man's manners may be elegant and his accomplishments numerous without injuring his usefulness. To study manner, to make that enamel on solid gold which has made such Americans as Everett, Motley, Livingston, Jay, Bayard, McClellan and Story cannot be a poor study. The men who have influenced their race have been few in number.

If manner is sometimes only a false enamel, we must still admire it. The graceful and respectful speech, the frank smile, the courteous bow, the hat raised on the staircase of a hotel as a man passes a woman, the kindness to the aged, the willingness to give place—who does not admire them?

If we see those traits even in what used to be called a country bumpkin we admire him. A man can be a person of real breeding even if he has no conventional breeding. The latter is but the guinea's stamp, to be sure, but it is a good old simile once more, but it is not current coin until it is thus stamped. *A Society Woman in N. Y. Sun.*

YOUNG MEN WHO WERE GREAT.

PROMINENT FIGURES IN HISTORY WHO WERE FAMOUS IN EARLY MANHOOD.

Charles James Fox was in Parliament at 19. The great Cromwell left the University of Cambridge at 18.

John Bright never was a day in school a day after he was 15 years old. Gladstone was in Parliament at 22, and at 24 was Lord of the Treasury.

Lord Bacon graduated at Cambridge when 16, and was called to the bar at 21.

Peel was in Parliament at 21, and Palmerston was Lord of the Admiralty at 23.

Henry Clay was in the Senate of the United States at 29, contrary to the constitution. Judge Hampton, after graduating at Oxford, was a student at law in the Inner Temple at 19.

Gustavus Adolphus ascended the throne at 16; before he was 34 he was one of the great rulers of Europe.

Judge Story was in Harvard at 15, in Congress at 29, and Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States at 32.

Martin Luther had become largely distinguished at 24 and at 50 he reached the topmost round of his world-wide fame.

Cromwell conducted a memorable campaign at 17, and at 22 he, and Turenne also, were of the most illustrious men of their time.

Webster was a college at 15, gave earnest of his great future before he was 25, and at 30 was the peer of the ablest men in Congress.

William H. Seward commenced the practice of law at 21, at 31 was President of a State Convention, and at 37 Governor of New York.

Washington was a distinguished Colonel in the army at 22, early in public affairs, commander of the army at 33, and President at 57.

Maurice of Saxony died at 32, conceded to have been one of the profoundest statesmen and one of the ablest generals which Christendom has seen.

Napoleon at 25 commanded the army of Italy. At 30 he was not only one of the most illustrious generals of all time, but one of the great law-givers of the world. At 46 he saw Waterloo.

Leo X. was Pope at 38. Having finished his academic training, he took the office of Cardinal at 18, and after twelve months younger than was James Fox when he entered Parliament.

Only one civilian out of the Presidents of this country gained his first election after he was 60; and that one was James Buchanan. The chance for the Presidency after 60 is small and growing less.

Russian Court; at 30 he was himself Minister to Prussia; at 35 he was Minister to Russia; at 48 he was Minister to England; at 56 he was Secretary of State and President at 57.

There have been twenty-two Presidents of the United States, five of whom were elected at 57 and six attained that age before the age of 60. Three military men, past 60, have been elected. Two died very young, and the other was General Jackson, and he was but 61 when elected.

Jonathan Edwards acquired early renown as the greatest metaphysician in America and as unsurpassed by any one in Europe. He commenced the reading of Latin when six years old. At 10 he wrote a remarkable paper upon the immortality of the soul. At the age of 13 he entered Yale College, where he graduated four years later.

General Grant was elected President at 46; but when a young man, in the Mexican war, he so distinguished himself at the battle of Molino del Rey that General Scott named him for promotion on the field, and at the storming of Chapultepec his courage and ability caused him to be specially commended by General Worth. And for these young acts of skill and valor he was made Captain in the regular army. He was but 39 when he gained his victory at Fort Donelson, and only 41 when he took Vicksburg. —*Boston Gazette.*

THE IMPERIAL VETO.

The New South Wales Divorce Bill, a measure passed to relieve, in some degree, the hopeless misery of unhappy marriages, has been sent to the House of Representatives for consideration by the Hon. Mr. Justice, and has been indignantly shelved. Two measures of a similar character, also drawn up for the purpose of breaking the chains of lifelong slavery, have reached London on previous occasions, and both shared the same fate. The British Government expresses, in pompous phrase, its opinion that it is "inexpedient to enlarge the grounds on which divorce can be obtained," &c., and British newspapers observe, with grief, that Australia shows an inclination in this matter to follow in the footsteps of the United States and the nations of continental Europe, instead of imitating the sound and righteous example of the mother country. In other words, because, in this particular at least, England stagnates in the rearward ditch of civilisation, Australia must not advance, and because the English woman is the slave of her lord and master, the women of Australia must likewise be serfs. In England, the wife is, by law, a beast of burden, and, if, too often happens, her taskmaster and owner is a brute, she must endure her lot in silence and bow beneath the weary burden of her misery until death releases her. The man to whom the Church has bound her, body and soul, may be an imbecile drunkard who consumes his helpless dependants to utter starvation, and leaves them to the hospitality of the streets, but a race of fat bishops raise their hands in horror when men of human sympathies bring forward a proposition for the relief of the victims, and crush it with that well-trusted old blasphemy: "Whom God hath joined let no man put asunder." He may be a degraded criminal whose vices doom him to pass half an average lifetime in gaol, but his unhappy partner must labour and starve until old age creeps upon her in order that an attainted wretch, when at last he is released, may be able to support his wife and his helpless waiting for him, and may force her by insult and cruelty to aid him in the perpetration of new crimes. Or he may be a man who carries the taint of madness in his blood—a pitiable object who is periodically consigned to an asylum, but all the same, the law of Britain authorises him, if his lucid intervals are sufficiently well defined to permit of his release, to claim his wife and force her to become the mother of a family of maniacs. These are a few of the features of the British marriage law, and it is for the purpose of perpetrating this loathsome form of slavery throughout the Empire that the British Government contemptuously overrides the almost unanimous decision of the people of New South Wales. The pretences under which the Tory Cabinet bars the way of reform are worthy of the cause in which they are advanced. Legal complications, it is alleged, would arise from the want of uniformity in the marriage law of the Empire.

"It would make those who were wives or legitimate children in one country unmarried mothers and illegitimate children in the other, and an action, innocent in one country, possibly constituting bigamy, if followed by remarriage, criminal in the other."

In other words, because a wife is declared by law to be a slave in England it would be backward if she were treated a human being in New South Wales, and as the Government does not see fit to elevate the English woman the Australian woman must be degraded for the sake of uniformity. Something like 50 years ago, however, a similar difficulty was successfully met in the mother country. The black man was then a serf in the British colonies and a free citizen in England itself; he was a beast of burden in Barbadoes, while in London he was a human being; in the mother country he was qualified to marry and to procreate his wife, while in the dependencies he was only permitted to cohabit in order to raise a family to be sold in the slave-market. In those days, however, Britain led the van of human progress; to-day, she lags hopelessly in the rear. And so anxious is she to figure as the apostle of latter-day barbarism that she prefers to perpetrate a high-handed outrage upon the spirit of the Constitution of New South Wales rather than permit that colony to rise a single step above her own level of degradation. Yet the uniformity which she claims to be the result of the existing Scotch code of England and Australia has never yet dared to enforce within her own little island. The divorce laws of Scotland have, for many years, been almost as liberal as those now advocated in New South Wales, and yet no complications have arisen, and no English Minister has ventured, on moral or other grounds, to force on Scotland the legal system which the Salisbury Cabinet is now endeavouring to perpetuate in the colonies. Possibly, however, the heads of the Colonial office never heard of the existing Scotch code; possibly they are not aware even of the existence of Scotland; it is difficult to set bounds to the ignorance of the modern English Tory; and, in that case, their action may be due to common stupidity. Let us charitably trust that this is the case, and pass on.

The question lies between humanity and justice on the one side and ancient superstition and priestly intolerance on the other. The Church is prepared to perform the marriage service over any and every species of marriage, so long as the latest pious recitatives of the ritual, in support of marriage as a holy institution, but divorce pays toll to the State instead of the church, and as there is no commission to be got out of it, it is denounced by the clergy as an accursed thing. A handful of clerics and clerical supporters constituted the opposition to the Divorce Bill in N.S.W., and having been ignominiously defeated by the mass of the people they resorted to underhand devices to override the majority and seat mysterious deputations to the House of Commons, in Downing Street. The clerical host of this holy mission is visible in the childish ignorance of Sir Henry Holland's despatch. "It is urged that such a measure as the Divorce Bill should be passed by two successive Assemblies as an adequate test of public feeling, but he utterly ignores the fact that it has already gone through

this ordeal in N.S.W., from which we gather that his clerical advisers thought fit to suppress an important fact in their zeal for the great cause of truth. As matters stand at present, a miserable handful of land-jobbing clerics and their friends are permitted, by means of clever under-national engineering, and so long as an appeal to the ignorance and superstitious prejudice of a church-ridden foreign Government can retard the march of progress in Australia a selfish, and stagnant minority will be found to pull the strings. The question which Australia has to settle is whether she is to be ruled by her own sons or by the imported English curate and the English Cabinet to which the imported curate wails about the immorality of the land which keeps him in bread and wages. If the New South Wales Divorce Bill is permitted to drop, a new regime of selfishness has been inaugurated, and a foreign Church has prevailed against the will of a nation, and if the Church is allowed to prevail in this instance, justice will be carried to the foot of the Throne on every future occasion when its traditions are endangered. The British Government has an ear which is always open to the appeal of the party of stagnation, and unless Australia is to forego all hope of progress, she must shake off the double incubus of Imperialism and Clericalism—the twin agencies which have weighed down the world for countless generations. —*Sydney Bulletin.*

An Important Discovery is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, and premature decay. The discovery was made by a missionary in Old Mexico; it saved him from a miserable existence and an early grave. We learn that the Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., will send the prescription, free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope.

To-day's Advertisements.

THE SCOTTISH ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SWATOW, SINGAPORE AND BANGKOK.
THE Company's Steamer

"PHRA CHULA CHOM KLAO,"
Captain A. Benson, will be despatched for the above Ports, on TUESDAY, the 29th inst. at Noon.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
YUEN FAT HONG,
Agents.
Hongkong, 26th May, 1888. [529]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR MANILA, VIA AMOY.
THE Company's Steamship

"DIAMANTE,"
Captain McCaslin, will be despatched for the above Ports, on TUESDAY, the 29th inst. at 4 P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 26th May, 1888. [530]

ZETLAND LODGE,
No. 525.
A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, on FRIDAY, the 1st June, at 8.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.
Hongkong, 26th May, 1888. [531]

FOR SALE.
GERMAN BEER.
BRAUEREI "ZUR EICHE," KIEL.
\$7 25 per Case of 4 Dozen Quarts.
9.00 8 Pints.
EDUARD SCHELLHASS & CO.,
Sole Agents.
Hongkong and China.
Hongkong, 3rd May, 1887. [463]

FOR SALE AT MACAO.
ON MODERATE TERMS.
AN extensive property on the business side of the town, consisting of TEN STRONGLY BUILT GODOWNS, with Rooms above suitable for Offices or Dwelling Houses; Six small Dwelling Houses, attached to a Chinese Hong; and a piece of spare ground suitable for building purposes.

There are two separate entrances to the property, one opening on the Harbour close to the Steamboat Co.'s Wharf.
For full particulars apply to
"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" OFFICE.
Hongkong, 3rd April, 1888. [536]

G. FALCONER & CO.
WATCH AND CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS
AND
JEWELLERS.
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS AND BOOKS.
40, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. [564]

FOR SALE CHEAP.
ABOUT TEN TONS OF ASPHALTE.
Apply to
A. A. DE MELLO & Co.,
Macao.
Macao, 3rd April, 1888. [562]

FOR SALE.
AT WHOLESALE PRICES.
SACCONES' SHERRY, PORT, CLARETS, BRANDY, WHISKIES, ALE, STOUT, MACHINERY, COOKING STOVES, SCALES, BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES, PAINTS, OILS, VARNISH, PIANOS, SINGERS' SEWING MACHINES, SODA-WATER MACHINERY, Gas Engines, VELCROE HORSES, EMPIRE LUBRICATORS, ICE-MAKING MACHINES, BICYCLE WHEELS for JINRICKSHAWS.
Apply to
W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings.
Hongkong, 2nd May, 1888. [511]

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE MIKE COAL MINE.
BUNKER COALS can be supplied to any Steamer lying in the harbour or coming alongside the Kowloon WHARF on application to the Undersigned.
Y. FUKUHARA,
Acting Manager.
Hongkong, 19th January, 1888. [169]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION
OF
STEAM LAUNDRY MACHINERY.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on
MONDAY,
the 4th June, 1888, at 2.30 p.m.,
at the late
STEAM LAUNDRY WORKS,
Bowlington.
(FOR ACCOUNT OF WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.)

1 PATENT MCALEPINE WASHING MACHINE.
2 PATENT ROTARY STEAM WASHING MACHINE.
1 PATENT 108" DECONDUN IRONING MACHINE.
1 PATENT 54" DECONDUN IRONING MACHINE.
1 PATENT MANGLE.
1 STARCHING MACHINE.
1 SQUEEZING MACHINE.
1 BLUE RINSE and 2 IRONING STOVES.
1 CORNISH BOILER.
1 DOUBLE CYLINDER HORIZONTAL ENGINE.
TERMS OF SALE.—Cash on delivery.
G. R. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 26th May, 1888. [515]

AUCTION SALE OF HORSES.

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 24th of June proximo there will be sold at LAC STREET (before the Pagoda), SAIGON, by Public Auction, SALE, FIFTY-FIVE HORSES of Arabian breed.
H. L. VERLEYE,
Consul for France.
Hongkong, 25th May, 1888. [528]

Consulat de France,
Hongkong, 25th May, 1888.

Insurances.

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000.

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS AT CURRENT RATES ON GOODS, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.
WOO LIN YUEN,
Secretary.
HEAD OFFICE,
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST,
Hongkong, 1st February, 1882. [550]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED).
CAPITAL TAELS 600,000 } \$835,333-33-
EQUAL TO
RESERVE FUND \$249,000-00.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
Mr. SING, Esq. | Lo YUEN MOON, Esq.
LOU TSO SHUN, Esq. |
MANAGER.—HO AMEI.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.
HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST,
Hongkong, 17th December, 1885. [877]

To be Let.
TO LET.
HOUSE AT THE PEAK.

FIVE ROOMS, GRASS TENNIS COURT. Furnished or Unfurnished.
For particulars apply to the Undersigned,
C. H. GRACE.
Hongkong, 23th May, 1888. [527]

TO LET.
ROOMS in "COLLIER CHAMBERS."
GODOWN in ICE HOUSE LANE, lately occupied by Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, from the 1st August.
Apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
Hongkong, 2nd May, 1888. [512]

MACAO.
TO BE LET UNFURNISHED OR PARTLY FURNISHED.
A BUNGALOW, opposite the Public Gardens, at the western end of the Praya Grande. Excellent water supply, and Servants quarters attached. Rent very moderate.
Apply to
A. A. DE MELLO & Co.,
Macao.
Macao, 3rd April, 1888. [568]

TO LET.
A COMMODIOUS SUIT OF OFFICES in the ICE HOUSE BUILDINGS.
Apply to
G. C. ANDERSON,
13, Praya Central,
Hongkong, 22nd March, 1888. [532]

TO BE LET.
A SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE in Richmond Terrace, containing 6 Comfortable Rooms, 3 Bath Rooms and convenient Out Office.
A New Storey has just been added to the Servants' Quarters.
Apply to
Mr. JOHN WILLMOTT,
Hongkong Dispensary,
Hongkong, 24th April, 1888. [513]

NOTICE.
FOR the Convenience of Customers, the production of the "CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED" can be obtained by RETAIL FOR CASH, at No. 1, PRINCE STREET, at the same prices as at the Refinery or Retail orders will be delivered at addresses in town on application forwarding their monthly requirements in writing direct to the Refinery at East Point.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 4th May, 1888. [514]

Announcements.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED A FURTHER SUPPLY

OF
MONTERRAT LIME FRUIT JUICE,
CORDIALS.

• JUJUBES, and

TABLETS.

MAWSON & SWAN'S

NEW PATENT WATER FILTERS.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
Established A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 8th May, 1888.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1888.

The proceedings at the second ordinary half-yearly meeting of the Punjom and Sunghie Doo Samantan Mining Company Limited, held at the Hongkong Hotel on Thursday afternoon, again brings prominently before the public the generally rotten management associated with the joint stock enterprises for which the colony of Hongkong has in recent years become so notorious. This Company was first registered in Hongkong on the 8th Sept. 1885, with a capital of \$300,000, divided into forty thousand shares of ten dollars each, the original subscribers comprising most of the leading mercantile men of the colony. It was heralded into existence by reports of a most sensational character, describing the immense wealth piled up at Punjom, which only wanted skilled treatment and carrying away in order to make each and every one of the shareholders millionaires of the most approved type. It was never explained why the original owners of this modern Golconda were so anxious to dispose of their priceless estate with its teeming millions for the paltry consideration of \$50,000; such a trifling circumstance would, of course, never suggest itself either to the philanthropic promoters and directors, or to the investing public. But it was nevertheless a matter which ought to have received some consideration. The Punjom Mining Co. was started, as we have said, nearly three years ago, and its history up to the present day can be described in very few words—as an instrument of share gambling it can claim to rank first amongst speculative stocks on the Hongkong share market; as a legitimate commercial undertaking it has hitherto proved a delusion of the first water. And impartially gauging the probable future of this business from its unsavoury past, we are really unable to arrive at a conclusion that could in any sense prove satisfactory to legitimate investors.

We have no intention of wading at any great length through the shady details of the Punjom Company's existence; our time and space are too valuable, especially as the game is not worth the candle, but it is necessary to briefly allude to one or two leading points in order to clearly bring out the true position of the business at the present time. It was provided by the Articles of Association that fifteen thousand fully paid up shares should be specially allotted and issued to the promoters of the Company; further that twenty thousand shares should be allotted, for reasons we can only guess at, to certain gentlemen whose names are set out at length, and that the balance of five thousand shares should be offered to the public. It may perhaps be just as well to add here that we have no sympathy to spare for the promoters and their friends who bagged thirty-five out of the forty thousand shares; they have doubtless doubled or trebled their original speculations at the expense of the public and can be left severely alone to chuckle over their wonderful fortune. And now let us follow the working of this sensational enterprise, as indicated by Directors' reports and meetings of shareholders.

The first meeting was held on January 6th, 1885, in conformity with statutory requirements, when the Chairman (the Hon. F. D. Sassoon) availed himself of the opportunity to preach a glowing sermon on the Company's brilliant prospects, based chiefly on the reports of Mr. HAUGHTON, the engineer at the mine, and whose name appears as one of the favored individuals to whom 1,500 shares were specially allotted. A Directors' report and statement of accounts were first issued on the 28th July, 1886; the only item in these documents requiring special mention is the significant circumstance that the services of Mr. HAUGHTON, the expert on whose advice the Company was floated, had been summarily dispensed with, for reasons which the Chairman, at the regular meeting held on July 31st, declined to divulge. At the meeting held on the

8th February, 1887, the Hon. C. P. CHATER, who occupied the chair, was able to tell the shareholders that a telegram from London had confirmed Mr. HAUGHTON's assay of some lode taken from a cross lode, and that their mining engineer, Mr. STUART, was hard at work putting up the machinery and plant, and that he hoped in a few weeks to be able to start work. The next meeting of shareholders was held on the 29th Sept., when no information was vouchsafed and no questions were asked. In the report dated Sept. 23rd, however, we come across a few items of some interest. A 12-head stamping mill, with all machinery connected therewith, had been erected at the mine and reported in excellent working order; a suitable water-wheel had been procured from home and was at Singapore waiting shipment to Pahang; a stern-wheel steam launch had been completed and was expected to render valuable service for the Company, not only in the transport of machinery, stores and passengers, but also in the development of the trade of the district; Mr. STUART's valuable services it had not been deemed expedient to retain, but Mr. A. J. SHANNON had been engaged, in conjunction with Mr. GEORGE JOLLY as assistant, and these experts would shortly leave Europe for Pahang; and finally it had been deemed expedient, with a view to the further development of the concession, to appoint Mr. SCARLE, one of the vendors, as agent at Pahang, with special instructions to devote his attention to "the establishment of Tin industry on the tribute system"—a system suggested by the Rev. J. E. TENISON-WOODS in his report of a visit paid to the mines in August, 1885. This brings us to the report dated 16th May, 1888, with a statement of accounts to September 30th, 1887, and the meeting of shareholders held on Thursday afternoon.

The Directors of the Punjom and Sunghie Doo Samantan Mining Company, Limited, must not only be gentlemen of remarkable courage, but they can distinctly claim to be humorists of a most pronounced type. Their report is one of the baldest productions of the kind ever submitted to a body of business men; it is generally incomprehensible throughout, and on the few points where it is actually sensible and business-like the results are eminently unsatisfactory; but nevertheless these mercantile JOKERS MILLERS express their pleasure in submitting to numerous victims of misplaced confidence this fearful record of valuable time thrown away and money uselessly wasted. The report tells us of the 'accidental death of Mr. SHANNON, the new manager, and that still another, mineralogist, metallurgist, and mining engineer of considerable experience—Mr. HARRY M. BECHER—had been engaged to carry on the work. The Directors are inclined to believe that in this expert they have found a most suitable man, and they expect to have favorable results from his management and operations, and no doubt the shareholders are fully impressed with these weighty opinions and expectations. The Tin industry has not yet been opened up, but it will soon be taken in hand, when some tangible results are hoped for. Mr. BECHER, the Directors have the satisfaction to mention, considers the tin prospects very encouraging, and regards this part of the Company's concession as a very important portion of the property. It is true that Mr. BECHER has only made a flying inspection, and that Dr. TENISON-WOODS, who thoroughly surveyed the alleged tin mines, saw no indication of a tin lode, and declined to recommend the expenditure of any capital in the locality until it had been thoroughly tested; but so long as the Directors find room for satisfaction, we assume that everybody interested ought to slumber in tranquil contentment. There is nothing else in the report, and we venture to think that had the various references just quoted been left out, nobody would have lost anything. Certainly they leave shareholders in exactly the same state of blissful ignorance of material details in which they have been allowed to revel since the Company first started operations. At Thursday's meeting the Chairman (Mr. W. G. BROOKS) supplemented the report with some detailed statistics, which he had roughly drawn up, as to the expenditure during the past six months, making out that the Company had still funds available to the extent of about \$90,000; but he made no reference to the real position and prospects of the Company as a going concern. It was therefore not surprising that Mr. T. E. CANDLER should have asked for further information, but the results of his inquiries must have astounded all present outside the Board. Mr. CANDLER's position was not altogether one to be envied; he frankly admitted that on the strength of certain reports which he knew on the best authority the Directors had received from the manager at the mine, he had gambled in the Company's shares, and he claimed to know whether it was true or false that such reports had been received.

Mr. D. McCULLOCH supported this demand, contending that if any special information had come to hand, the shareholders had equal rights with the Directors in knowing what it was, and in a purely gambling stock like Punjom's the justice of this argument cannot be disputed. Of course the Directors indignantly repudiated having received any information which had not been promptly conveyed to the shareholders; No; they did nothing of the kind; but after feebly attempting to justify their action by saying that all letters, etc., could have been seen at the Company's office, and that the one received by the Chairman from Mr. BECHER, the Company's paid servant, was a private communication, they had no alternative but to lay the document before the meeting, and it was duly read. Although only dealing in vague generalities Mr. BECHER's so-called private report was not without interest to shareholders, and under all circumstances we consider the Board greatly to blame for not conveying its purport to the shareholders as soon as it arrived. That it greatly affected the status of Punjom in the local share market Mr. CANDLER's inspired "gamble" and a glance at the daily returns in our columns will sufficiently testify. After some trifling by-play between Mr. CANDLER and several of the Directors, the former gentleman created another surprise by suddenly demanding to see another letter sent to the Directors, giving details of certain assays that had been made by the manager. The Hon. C. P. CHATER, a member of the Board, promptly gave Mr. CANDLER the lie, but rather qualified his emphatic denial by stating that no other information regarding the mine had been received, "so far as he knew." Mr. CANDLER reiterated the accuracy of his assertion, and on Mr. McCULLOCH joining in the discussion and directly asking if any further information had been received, the Chairman was again compelled to admit that "we have had certain information, but it would not be of value to any man." Needless to say this weak admission at once elicited the very pertinent remark that it was for the shareholders to judge whether the information was valuable or otherwise, and then another lengthy and interesting report was read, after which Mr. CANDLER plainly expressed his belief that the information elicited would not have been forthcoming had he not asked for it, to which the Chairman replied that the extract just read, was printed in the last report, but afterwards withdrawn.

The Directors' troubles had not yet ended. Mr. W. LEGG wanted to know whether the Company was a gold or tin mining concern, or both, and remarked that the only reference to gold in the report was an asset "gold at mine, \$25.50. This again brought Mr. CANDLER to his feet, who said that it struck him as being very peculiar that the report should contain nothing as to the value of the gold, whilst an entire paragraph was devoted to tin. Mr. W. WORTON, another member of the Board, with more spirit than judgment, and we are bound to say with very little of either—desired to know if Mr. CANDLER was bringing a charge of wilfully concealing information, to which that gentleman inexplicably replied "certainly not," as that was the exact nature of the charge which he did bring forward and, moreover, which he substantially established. It is utterly useless in an affair of this kind to mince matters, and we do not hesitate to state that if Mr. CANDLER did not possess the courage of his opinions he should have refrained altogether from attacking the Board. The evidence before the meeting that the Directors had wilfully concealed information, as Mr. WORTON was well known quite well, was incontrovertible; but that they did so with the best meant intentions and in the belief that they were acting well within their powers; is doubtless equally certain. However, apart altogether from petty squabbling, into which the meeting had by this time degenerated, we think there can be little doubt that the discussion produced good results, and that in future, information from the mines will be freely circulated amongst the shareholders, as ought to have been done from the beginning. One member of the Board remarked that extracts from the manager's letters might be made public by circular, as the Directors objected to utilising the local newspapers for the purpose. On what ground this objection is based we cannot imagine, as the press is the method adopted by all mining companies in Great Britain, Australia, the United States, etc., but doubtless the Directors of the Punjom Company have their own reason for this as for many other eccentricities in management to which they can lay claim. It is, however, to be earnestly hoped that so long as the Punjom Company continues in existence as an industrial enterprise, and presents indications ominously suggest that it won't be for very long, the public will be spared

any repetition of the present scene, that occurred at this meeting. "Punjom" have already caused a vast amount of scandal in the commercial circles of the colony, and it is very desirable in the interests of all concerned that further grounds for ill-natured rumours should be carefully avoided. In another article we propose dealing shortly with the published accounts of the Company.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter.)

A HOME RULE SUCCESS.

LONDON, May 24th.
A Home Rule candidate has been elected for Southampton by a small majority, in the room of Vice-Admiral Comberford, who has been appointed Admiral Superintendent at Portsmouth.

AUSTRIAN WAR PREPARATIONS.
Eighteen more battalions of Austrian infantry have been sent to the Austro-Russian frontier.

FRENCH POLITICS.

The Radical party in the Senate and Chamber of Deputies has resolved to strongly oppose Boulanger.

(From the Straits Times.)

THE DEFENCES.

LONDON, May 15th.
Mr. W. H. Smith moved that the House authorise the issue from the Consolidated Fund of eight hundred and fifty thousand pounds for building and arming vessels for the defence of the Colonies. Mr. Smith also moved that a further sum of two millions, six hundred thousand pounds be applied to the defence of Ports and coaling stations.

The former motion was adopted. The consideration of the latter has been adjourned.

THE EMPEROR.

BERLIN, May 17th.
The Emperor drove in the Park for an hour to-day.

A second microscopic examination of the discharge from the throat revealed nothing of a cancerous nature.

HOME DEFENCES.

LONDON, May 18th.
Mr. Stanhope announced that the Cabinet is sitting in Committee, Lord Salisbury presiding, for the purpose of inquiring into what is really necessary to put the country in a state of complete defence.

IRELAND.

A meeting of the leading Parnellite Catholics in Dublin resolved that the assertions in the recent Papal decree are baseless, and that the meeting protest against its issue, declaring that the Irish people cannot admit the right of the Vatican to interfere in political affairs.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Chinese corvette *Kwang-Kap* arrived this morning from Canton.

A TELEGRAM dated Rome, May 10th, states that the Emperor of Brazil has recovered from his late serious illness.

A REGULAR meeting of Zealand Lodge, No. 125, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, on Friday, the 1st proximo, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

COLONEL T. W. HIGGINSON in his lecture on "Literature as a Profession," at Cambridge recently, said that there were over twelve hundred authors, lecturers and literary men in the country, excluding journalists, who would raise the number to 1,300.

"I can never be more than a sister to you," said a buxom widow to an old bachelor who had proposed. "Ah, madame, yes you can," he responded gallantly. "I am not a man to lose hope." "Yes, but I say I cannot," she persisted. "You have daughters, madame," he said, "and may yet be my mother-in-law."

We learn that arrangements are being made under the auspices of a well-known Portuguese resident for a concert to be given in the City Hall, for the benefit of the sufferers by the disastrous burning down of the theatre at Oporto. Several of our leading musical amateurs have promised their assistance, and as the object in view is a most deserving one, the affair should prove financially successful. It is intended, we believe, to give the concert about the middle of next month.

Most European thrones, remarks a Sydney contemporary, seem well-drained and healthy. The late German Emperor was over 60 when he died; the present is nearly 60; the Queen of England is getting on for 70; the King of Holland and Denmark are 70; the King of Sweden is 60; the Emperor of Austria 58; the King of the Belgians 53; the King of Italy is 44; the King of Greece is still younger, 43, which is also the age of the Czar; the Sultan is 46.

Two Indian watchmen were charged to-day on remand with violently assaulting on the 14th inst. one Wong Tak, a boilermaker in the Hung Ham Dock Yard. The defendants were sentenced by Mr. Sercombe-Smith on the 14th inst. to two months' hard labour each; but as there was supposed to have been a flaw in the evidence upon which they were convicted the case was re-opened on the 22nd inst. and heard again this morning by the same magistrate, Mr. Wilson (Messrs. Wootton and Deacons) now appearing for the defence. Complainant said his arm was broken in a row between about 200 Chinamen employed in the yard and the two defendants. He had gone amongst them to try and preserve order when one of the watchmen immediately knocked him down while the other beat him with a stick; did not know who broke his arm but knew it was done in the scuffle, out of which he drifted insensible, and remained unconscious for some time after. His arm was set in the hospital and he had bruises all over his body. The defendants again denied having beaten complainant, but the evidence being somewhat strong on the other side his Worship stuck to his former decision, and although the defendants' solicitor requested a fine for a first offence, his Worship ordered for a fine of two months' imprisonment.

The three cruisers for the Chinese Revenue Service, built in England, arrived at Singapore on the 19th inst.

Sir CHARLES LILLY, the Queensland Chief Justice, says that the girls of his country are 'neither lithe nor graceful,' and were not compelled to sit all day in judgment on Queensland litigants, he would open a gymnasium and patriotically devote his life to female physical adornment.

This morning the Inspector of Markets summoned two Chinamen of the Central Market for offering partridges for sale during months prohibited by Colonial Ordinances. Complainant said the men kept the stalls No. 14 and 48, and on the 23rd inst. he found them selling the game to a gentleman in the colony. It was against the law to sell the birds between April and September. Mr. Wodehouse remanded the case till May 29th at 11 a.m., defendants being allowed out.

A FOCHOW correspondent writes:—"Tempora mutantur, et nos mutantur in illis! The Fochow tea trade has surely come down very, very low, as 'the Princely house' has gone into the storekeeping business!" And he encloses an "express" in which Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. announce to the Fochow community that they have "just received a consignment of very choice Scotch whiskies" at prices ranging from \$9.50 to \$7.00 per case. We are very sorry of course for the collapse in tea which has driven J. M. & Co. to whisky, and will do our utmost to keep things going by sampling a case of the Baile Nicol Jarvie blend as soon as our present stock is exhausted.

In the parish register of a church in the south of France, is the following entry: "Parish of St. Just-le Croix. Marie Durand, born on the 16th March, 1761. Sponsor, M. Pierre Froment, baptised by M. le Curé Donadeux." Marie is still living, and is consequently in her 124th year. She has seen eleven successive governments. In 1779 she married a blacksmith, by whom she had two children, one of whom died recently, aged 87. In 1788, she became the wife of a recruiting-sergeant, and followed the occupation of *cantiniere*, taking part in the campaigns of the Republic and the Empire. Her second husband was killed at the Battle of Waterloo, at which she also was present. The oldest inhabitants of St. Just will remember her return to her native village in 1815. She now lives at the expense of the commune, and is well cared for.

QUEEN'S ROAD on a rainy day is anything but a passable thoroughfare. The "hicks" cut up the central portion in a frightful manner, leaving mud pools which take days and weeks to dry up. The side-walks are monopolised by the Celestial fraternity, who jostle pedestrians in a most unceremonious way, who crowd before shop windows, lost in gazing admiration of the contents within; coolies carrying bales of goods, long poles, eatables, and even fruit-mongers make use of the covered passages, as if they alone had a right to frequent them; many dogs are occasionally to be found there looking piteously for food or a dose of carbolic soap; little Chineseurchins cross and recross the arcades enjoying themselves at a game of hide-and-seek, and even native hawkers perambulate the flags, offering for sale their little wares. The question generally asked is—where are we to go on our business rounds? or better—where are the Police? It being an understood thing that the side-walks and covered passages are not to be utilised by natives carrying loads or poles, we would point out to the Police authorities the advisability of enforcing the regulations in a more satisfactory manner to the public, than is the case at present.

A BRICKLAYER named Li Akang was to-day charged by a schoolboy with obtaining from him, by false pretences, two jackets and an umbrella. The complainant, Yin Chow, said on the 7th April he was standing looking into a shop window near the clock tower when happening to look round he saw the prisoner pick up a ring; he did not take further notice and was going along about his business, together with his younger brother, when the prisoner came up and put his hand over plaintiff's mouth ordering witness to accompany him. Witness was afraid to refuse and went with the accused to the top of D'Almeida Street when he said "you saw me pick up that ring, and I want you to give me \$2 for it." I told him I had no money, said the youth, when he told me if I would take it into a pawn shop and get some money on it he would give me a share of the proceeds. Just as I was taking the ring into a shop the accused asked me to give him two jackets and an umbrella I was carrying, for security, and he would wait outside till we came back. I did not want to do this but he snatched the things out of our hands and made us go into the shop, where the man in charge told me the ring was not gold but brass. On coming out of the shop we could not find him and concluded he had run away. Corroborative evidence having been given Mr. Wodehouse sentenced the prisoner to six months' hard labour.

The Hongkong typhoons are bad enough, but hitherto they have not possibly been quite so destructive to house property as that one under the name of "hurricane" which lately visited Madagascar, and which appears to have swept everything before it like chaff before the wind. As a caution to those estimable citizens living in the jerry buildings of the lower town, and in particular to some of our friends on the lofty pinnacles of the mountain, here is a description of the little blow which swept across Tamatave the other day, and which will be remembered in that Malagasy city as one of the most disastrous storms that have visited the island during the present century. Eleven vessels at anchor in the harbour were totally wrecked; some of them foundered, as their anchors were parted, and their cables and masts driven to the reefs. The damage done to the town was very great, not a house escaped more or less destruction, numbers of them being utterly swept away. The British Consulate, a large new building only erected some months ago by the British Government, was almost totally destroyed. Large fragments of this building were carried by the wind for hundreds of yards, and for acres around the ground presented an extraordinary and melancholy spectacle, being strewn with doors, windows, beams, and other pieces of twisted wood and iron, besides clothes and furniture. The Consul's wife, Mrs. Haggard (the Consul himself was at Mauritius), and those in the Consulate had a narrow escape with their lives. Most of the trees were blown down and all were smashed to pieces. Several lives were lost on shore in addition to those drowned, but their numbers were few in comparison to the almost incredible damage done in so short a time. The hurricane only lasting seven hours, it is remarkable circumstance in connection with the hurricane, that it was not till 2 1/2 miles to the southward of Tamatave, not its full strength of 60 miles an hour.

TO-DAY'S Government Gazette contains a copy of the certificate of fitness granted to the Peak Tramway Company by the Public Works Department. The cars will commence running some time next week.

Two Chinese "traders" were charged by P.C. Patterson with the unlawful possession of 1711 together with a lot of broken silver, on the 25th inst. Complainant declared on that date at 11.20 p.m. while walking down Centre Street he met the two men coming up; they were forging ahead in a very suspicious manner and when they observed the witness appeared like putting about and sailing large. On overhauling them two parcels were found on their persons containing the treasure. The first defendant offered a violent resistance and required raking before hauling down his colours. Mr. Wodehouse remanded the two strange-sail till Saturday June 2nd.

BISHOP SPALDING is of opinion that celibacy is more to be feared than Mormonism. He says:—"Of Mormonism as a national danger, much that is superficial and idle is spoken and written. The Mormons are sober, industrious and thrifty, and their acceptance of polygamy is our only grievance against them. But polygamy beyond all question we need not fear at all. Even among the Mormons it exists in comparatively few instances. It is a barbarous institution and is found only where women are held in the bondage of ignorance and servitude. No man, who has regard for his peace and comfort, would think of having two wives in a country in which women have become so intelligent and independent that the only sure way of living happily with even one is to be humble and obedient. Sensuality with us may be reasonably certain, will not take the form of uxoriousness. The problem which will present itself for solution is not whether a man shall have one or several wives, but whether he shall have one or none at all, and whatever the future of Mormonism may be, here in the United States it must cease to be polygamous."

A RATHER unusual case came before the Acting Judge, Mr. A. J. Leach, in the Summary Jurisdiction Court yesterday. The plaintiff was a "fair but frail" who had promised to love, honour, and obey a Chinaman, and the defendant was a Chinese barkeeper possessing a European helper. The first lady had been officiating in the varied capacities of charwoman and pianist in the defendant's bar, her affinity presiding in the kitchen. She was turned out of doors last month, and claimed a few dollars for back-pay. In replying to the judge she several times addressed him as "Your Worship," which apparently irritated that gentleman, as he exclaimed "You mustn't 'Worship' me; you may call me 'Your Honour' or 'Your Lordship' or anything of that sort, but don't call me 'Your Worship.'" The two Chinamen both gave evidence, each on his own side, but in such limited philosophy that one wondered however they managed to regulate their partners into taking them. They were all Christians, and took their oaths with a gusto which brought tears to the eyes of the interpreters. Result—somebody lied—St. Cecilia of the scrubbing-brush consulted.

SAIGON papers dwell at great length on the electoral campaign at present in full swing at the capital of Cochinchina. To-morrow matters will come to a final issue, as the first scrutiny, which was held on the 13th inst., will require a ballot. Up to that date the following results were reported by the *Courrier du Saigon*: Ternisien, 484 votes; Carabelli, the Mayor of Saigon, 367; Laurans, 222; others, 117. It was understood that M. Laurans would withdraw from the contest, in favor of M. Carabelli, who would in all probability be elected. The tactics employed in a French electioneering tussle are highly amusing. The law of libel is evidently left in abeyance during the contest, as the candidates are allowed to revile each other in the most outrageous style, mutual accusations and recriminations being brought on the tapis both on the platform and in the public press, which under ordinary circumstances would inevitably lead to criminal proceedings in a Court of Justice. And after all, what can a deputy for Cochinchina do in the French Chamber on behalf of his constituency? The administration of the French colonies, and particularly that of the newly amalgamated provinces of Indo-China, is under the exclusive control of the central Government, which, changing as it does almost with the seasons, brings on a corresponding mutability in the colonies, whose budgets are now curtailed, now enlarged, whose Governors succeed each other with a rapidity of promotion quite *à la Grande Duchesse*, the general result being that the French colonial world does not rotate towards progress, but takes as many erratic directions as there are contrary impulses given it. We wish all success to French Indo-China, but we are afraid the centralising system of administration, which has been imposed on it will not be conducive to its present or future welfare.

TO-DAY the chief officer of the steamer *Caribbrooke* charged four Chinamen, members of the crew, with being drunk, disorderly, and mutinous on the morning of the 26th inst. Complainant said he ordered the boatswain to prepare for going away by taking the turns out of the cable, when he discovered the man was more or less incapable from drink. Knew it was drink by his manner; he did not reel about but was "cheeky" and wanted to take a pair of halyards out of a boat's mast as a lashing for the cable; thought he ought to have got thicker rope out of the store room. In consequence of this fooling, an altercation took place when complainant gave the boatswain a shove which resulted in the latter taking the witness by the collar and pulling him up and the witness in the shape of two formidable "bobbies." The officer explained that the men were on the steamer's articles, that the boatswain had been there six months and that his pay was twenty-four dollars per month; that the ship was going to sea that day, ought, in fact, to have been there now and that he did not want to take the men away with him; as it was not safe to have such practical customers on board. Mr. Wodehouse remanded the case to Saturday next, till 11 a.m. allowed for two sureties of \$50 each for the first defendant, and one surety of \$25 each for the other three.

